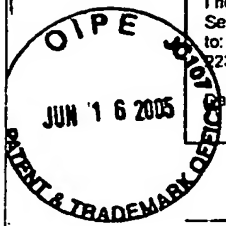


6-17-05

IFW
\$



I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV418601662US, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: June 16, 2005

Signature:

Thomas V. Szymanski
(Thomas V. Szymanski)

Docket No.: ALS-017CP
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Bryan A. Thurston

Application No.: 10/763279

Confirmation No.: 6483

Filed: January 23, 2004

Art Unit: 2833

For: REINFORCED LOCKING CONNECTOR

Examiner: Xuong My Chung-Trans

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated March 16, 2005 (Paper No. 0305), Applicant submits the following remarks and enclosed Terminal Disclaimer in support of allowance of the above-identified U.S. patent application.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.